

Listing of Claims:

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Claims 1 – 12. (canceled)

13. (original) A process for producing a pearlescent white finish on a substrate which process comprises applying an improved pearlescent white paint composition comprising a film-former and a solids material comprising a pearlizing effective amount of a pearlizing compound, a hiding material and a pigment, the improvement wherein said hiding material is selected from the group consisting of metals selected from the group consisting of particulate aluminum, zinc, copper, nickel, stainless steel and alloys thereof, and compounds selected from aluminum oxide, aluminum silicate, hydrated magnesium aluminum silicate, silica, mica aluminum silicate, magnesium oxide, calcium carbonate, calcium sulphate, calcium metasilicate, anhydrous sodium potassium aluminum silicate, sodium aluminum silicate, alumina trihydrate and barium sulphate in, respective, effective whitening and hiding amounts to said substrate; and curing said composition on said substrate to provide a cured said finish.

14. (original) A process as defined in claim 13 further comprising applying a clear coat to said cured finish and curing said clear coat.

15. (original) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said substrate is a vehicle body.

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (new) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said pigment is white and selected from the group consisting of titanium dioxide, zirconium oxide, zinc sulfide, antimony oxide, zinc oxide, white lead carbonate, white lead sulfate, lithopone, barium sulfate, calcium sulfate, calcium carbonate, magnesium silicate, aluminum silicate and silica.

19. (new) A process as defined in claim 18 wherein said white pigment is titanium dioxide.

20. (new) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said pearlizing compound is selected from the group consisting of a natural or synthetic, coated or uncoated mica or white mica compound, and a natural organic pearlescent material.

21. (new) A process as defined in claim 20 wherein said pearlizing compound is a mica.

22. (new) A process as defined in claim 20 wherein said hiding material is particulate metallic aluminum.

23. (new) A process as defined in claim 22 wherein said particulate metallic Al is coated with SiO₂.

24. (new) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said solids material comprises at least 90% w/w mica, and 4-7% w/w TiO₂; and 0.2-3.0% w/w particulate metallic Al.

25. (new) A process as defined in claim 24 comprising 94.0± 1% w/w mica, 5.0± 1% w/w TiO₂ and 0.5± 0.3 w/w Al.

26. (new) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said composition comprises a film-former selected from the resin group consisting of an acrylic, urethane, polyester and melamine/formaldehyde.

27. (new) A process as defined in claim 13 wherein said composition comprises a formulation base selected from the group consisting of an aqueous, solvent and lacquer base.

28. (new) A process as defined in claim 26 or claim 27 wherein said composition comprises about 7-8% acrylic, about 1% urethane, about 6% polyester and about 5% melamine formaldehyde resins on a w/w basis.